

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated June 4, 2004.

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments above and the remarks following is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-35 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-35 have been rejected. Claims 1 and 17 are now amended.

Specification

The Examiner requires an abstract on a separate sheet. An abstract is provided.

Claims Rejections Under 35 USC 103

The Examiner rejects claims 1-7, 9-22, 24-30, 31 and 32 under 35USC 103(a) as being obvious over Joong et al in view of Sicher et al.

The Examiner agrees that having a live telephone connection is a valid argument and is distinguishable from prior art cited, but does not find anything in the previously amended claims indicating that the connection is a live connection. In light of the rejection, independent claims 1 and 17 are amended to explicitly recite a live voice connection between the roaming mobile subscriber and the requested service, in addition to the signaling path between the first and second service nodes over the packet-switch network.

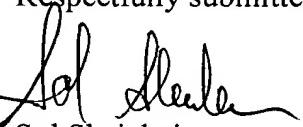
In the present invention the first and second service nodes exchange information required for providing the requested service to the subscriber, where the

information includes at least a subscriber identification signal. The subscriber identification signal is reassociated with the voice connection at the home network, thereby effectively creating a unified path connecting the subscriber to the requested service. Thus the service, which is voice based, but also requires secure identification of the user, obtains the identification via the signaling path and then provides the service via the live voice connection. The home network is thus provided with the voice signal along with the subscriber identification signal.

It is believed that the independent claims as amended are allowable, particularly in light of the above comments. It is believed that the dependent claims are allowable as being dependent on allowable main claims, and the specific objections against the dependent claims are therefore not responded to individually.

It is believed that all of the matters raised by the Examiner are overcome and that all of the claims are both novel and inventive. No new matter is added by the present amendments since it is believed to be implicit that if voice-based services are to be used, then the voice connection must be live.

Early allowance of the application is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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